

# Ann-Marie Williams' Biography

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Ann-Marie Williams is the first Executive Director of the National Women's Commission (NWC) which is a strategic policy advisory to government on issues affecting women and is mandated to promote Gender Equality and Equity.

Williams has represented the Government of Belize at several international meetings and conferences on issues of gender and development, women's leadership and national development.

She has done outstanding work at home with women in political leadership via the Women in Politics Project, a flagship program of the NWC. In 2011, her passion was deepened when she was selected as part of a group of 50 women from among some 250 worldwide, nominated by their U.S. Ambassadors to receive the *U.S. Secretary of State Women in Public Service Award*. Williams describes the two-week training, tour of three major US cities and meeting Hillary Clinton as "the greatest experience of her professional life".

This Award-Winning Investigative Journalist, former Television Anchor, News Editor, Radio Broadcaster and Newspaper Editor has 25 years experience in mass media and is trained in radio, television and print before leaving the media in 2008.

Williams is a British Chevening scholar who earned a Master's Degree in Gender and Development with a concentration in politics from the prestigious Institute of Development Studies, at the University of Sussex, U.K. She also earned her B.A. in English Education (Hons.) from the University College of Belize and a Diploma in Mass Communications (First Class Hons.) from CARIMAC at the University of the West Indies, Mona, JA. As an adjunct lecturer at the University of Belize, Williams has taught several courses including Research Methods, Socio-Political Processes and Communication Skills.

When she's not working, she finds time to serve as a community organizer for several groundbreaking projects, among them, the 20,000 STRONG National Women's Empowerment Rally (March 6, 2014). She is a Board Member of the YWCA, an Executive Member of the National Committee for Families and Children (NCFC). As a devout Methodist she very active on several church committees in Wesley Methodist Church.

Her proudest achievement STILL REMAINS being the mother of one son; a former Corporal of the U.S. Marine Corps who is presently pursuing studies in Criminology & Law Enforcement.

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